

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-6 (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim 9
further comprising computer instructions 1, wherein a method for determining the cost multiplier, the computer instructions comprising:

providing a first ink coverage value of a color for a first document;

printing the first document on a printer until the printer runs out of an ink cartridge of the color;

deriving a second ink coverage value associated with the ink cartridge of the printer, wherein the second ink coverage value is derived from the first ink coverage value and the number of times the first document is printed before the printer runs out of the ink cartridge; and

dividing a cost of the second ink cartridge by the ink coverage value of the ink cartridge.

8. (previously presented) A system for pricing a print job comprising:

a processor configured to price a print job when an approximate amount of ink coverage associated with a print job is estimated, wherein the amount of ink coverage for each color is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color, wherein for each color, a cost multiplier for the color is multiplied with an ink coverage value associated with the color to obtain a cost of the ink for the color and, wherein the pricing is associated with the cost of ink for each color; and

a memory coupled with the processor, the memory being

configured to provide the processor with instructions for controlling the processor to price the print job.

9. (previously presented) A computer program product for pricing a print job, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

estimating an approximate amount of ink coverage associated with the print job, wherein the amount of ink coverage for each color is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color;

for each color, multiplying a cost multiplier for the color with an ink coverage value associated with the color to obtain a cost of the ink for the color; and

pricing the print job, wherein the pricing is associated with the cost of ink for each color.

10-15 (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim 22 further comprising computer instructions 10, wherein a method for determining the cost multiplier, the computer instructions comprising:

providing a first ink coverage value of a color for a first document;

printing the first document on a printer until the printer runs out of an ink cartridge of the color;

deriving a second ink coverage value associated with the ink cartridge of the printer, wherein the second ink coverage value is derived from the first ink coverage value and the number of times the first document is printed before the printer runs out of the ink cartridge; and

dividing a cost of the second ink cartridge by the ink coverage value of the ink cartridge.

17. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim [[10,]] 22 wherein the document is received in a first format and further comprising computer instructions for translating the document into a second format.

18. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim [[10,]] 22 further comprising computer instructions for converting the received document into a graphics bitmap.

19. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim [[10]] 22 wherein the document has a plurality of colors associated with the document and further comprising computer instructions for estimating an amount of ink coverage for each color associated with the document.

20. (currently amended) The method computer program product of claim [[10,]] 22 further comprising computer instructions for:

pricing the print job, wherein the price is associated with the cost of ink for each color and

displaying the price.

21. (previously presented) A system for estimating a cost of a print job comprising:

a processor configured to receive a document; convert the document into a predefined color space; and estimate an amount of ink for a color associated with the document, wherein the amount of ink coverage for the color is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color, wherein a cost multiplier for the color is multiplied with an ink coverage value associated with the color to obtain a cost of the ink for the color,

and wherein the cost of the print job is associated with the cost of ink for each color; and

a memory configured to provide instructions to the processor for controlling the processor to receiving the document, converting the document into the predefined color space, and estimating the amount of ink.

22. (previously presented) A computer program product for estimating a cost of a print job, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

receiving a document;

converting the document into a predefined color space; and

estimating an amount of ink for a color associated with the document, wherein the amount of ink coverage for each color is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color;

for each color, multiplying a cost multiplier for the color with an ink coverage value associated with the color to obtain a cost of the ink for the color, wherein the cost of the print job is associated with the cost of ink for each color.

23. (new) The system of claim 8 wherein the processor is further configured to determine the cost multiplier, determining the cost multiplier comprising:

providing a first ink coverage value of a color for a first document;

printing the first document on a printer until the printer runs out of an ink cartridge of the color;

deriving a second ink coverage value associated with the ink cartridge of the printer, wherein the second ink coverage value is derived from the first ink coverage value and the number of times the first document is printed before the printer runs out of the ink cartridge; and

dividing a cost of the second ink cartridge by the ink coverage value

of the ink cartridge.

24. (new) The system of claim 21 wherein the processor is further configured to determine the cost multiplier, determining the cost multiplier comprising:

providing a first ink coverage value of a color for a first document;

printing the first document on a printer until the printer runs out of an ink cartridge of the color;

deriving a second ink coverage value associated with the ink cartridge of the printer, wherein the second ink coverage value is derived from the first ink coverage value and the number of times the first document is printed before the printer runs out of the ink cartridge; and

dividing a cost of the second ink cartridge by the ink coverage value of the ink cartridge.

25. (new) The system of claim 21 wherein the document is received in a first format and the processor is further configured to translate the document into a second format.

26. (new) The system of claim 21 wherein the processor is further configured to convert the received document into a graphics bitmap.

27. (new) The system of claim 21 wherein the document has a plurality of colors associated with the document and the processor is further configured to estimate an amount of ink coverage for each color associated with the document.

28. (new) The system of claim 21 wherein the processor is further configured to:

price the print job, wherein the price is associated with the cost of ink for each color and

display the price.